

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I would like to state for the RECORD my position on the following votes I missed due to personal reasons.

On Monday, February 25, 2008, I missed rollcall votes 69, 70, and 71. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on all three votes.

HONORING DR. MICHAEL CROPP, 2008 RECIPIENT OF THE LEUKEMIA AND LYMPHOMA SOCIETY "SERVICE TO MANKIND" AWARD

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2008

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Michael Cropp on receiving the Western New York and Finger Lakes Chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society 2008 "Service to Mankind" Award. Dr. Michael Cropp was honored at the 16th Annual Diamond Ball on Saturday, February 23, 2008. Dr. Cropp is a brilliant example of commitment and devotion to one's community and fellowman.

Dr. Cropp serves as the president and chief executive officer of Independent Health. He received his undergraduate and medical degrees from Brown University and MBA from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 2003. A board-certified family physician, he has worked in medicine and led health systems for over 30 years.

His dedicated work and leadership have served several partners in western New York including Millard Fillmore Health System in Buffalo, United Way, the March of Dimes, Camp Good Days, and Special Times. Dr. Cropp acts as chairman of the Pursuing Perfecting, P2, collaborative of western New York, which addresses breast cancer and heart disease, and serves on the boards of the National Federation for Just Communities, the Buffalo Niagara Enterprise, the Elizabeth Pierce Olmsted Center for the Visually Impaired, and the Buffalo Niagara Partnership. His service is far-reaching and has powerfully touched the lives of patients, families, and their communities.

Dr. Cropp's work should inspire us all to serve our communities and fellow man with dedicated hearts and committed lives. I am proud to congratulate Dr. Cropp for this great honor, and wish him and his family the very best.

RECOGNIZING VICKY EYNON

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, in our modern, fast paced world many people often forget to

take the time to appreciate their surroundings. Inhabitants of the beautiful north Houston neighborhoods are fortunate enough to reside in an area deemed the "livable forest." As these communities progress into the future, residents like Vicky Eynon work at the same time to preserve these unique surroundings. As a result of her efforts FamilyTime has awarded her the 2007 Women of Achievement Award.

An advocate for the trees, Vicky Eynon's commitment to improving the lives of fellow Texans is truly admirable. Not only has she dedicated herself to local forests, as a school nurse she is also an advocate for the wellbeing of children. For 23 years she worked as a school nurse for Humble ISD.

By observing and predicting health concerns among students Vicky became instrumental in the fight for providing schools with Automatic Emergency Defibrillators. Not long after their implementation, she was able to help save a teacher's life as a result of the AED. Although she is now retired, Vicky Eynon's dedication to serving others further extends into the local church community. At Atascocita Presbyterian Church she teaches CPR, instructing others in the art of compassion.

I salute Vicky Eynon not only for the charity demonstrated through her work as a nurse but also for her environmental activism. Due to the work of Vicky and her group of volunteers, citizens in surrounding areas were made aware of the construction plans and were encouraged to take action. Her belief in the power of people through positive action is inspirational. As a result of Vicky's dedication, development projects involving the removal of large numbers of trees unnecessarily were reconfigured to allow for a more natural landscape.

Because of her efforts to preserve the landscape of Southeast Texas, Vicky Eynon was awarded from FamilyTime the 2007 Women of Achievement Award. This remarkable Texan's commitment to improving many different aspects of the community affects the lives of countless people.

And that's just the way it is.

ENDORING THE IDEA THAT THE PAPERS OF CARIBBEAN LEADERS BE MADE PUBLICALLY AVAILABLE THROUGH THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the University of the West Indies and its recent push to make publicly available those official papers penned by some of the Caribbean's greatest leaders. These papers shed invaluable insight into the area's national and regional public policy, and their availability would grant a host of students, citizens, and political analysts knowledge of their governments' inner workings. The New York CARIB News article, "Give Us Your Papers, They Would Help Future Generations," published on Feb. 5, makes the case.

UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES TO FORMER CARIBBEAN LEADERS: GIVE US YOUR PAPERS, THEY WOULD HELP FUTURE GENERATIONS

"Give us your official papers that deal with both national and regional public policy."

That appeal to former leaders of several CARICOM nations, from P.J. Patterson of Jamaica, Dr. Kenny Anthony of St. Lucia and James "Son" Mitchell of St. Vincent to Owen Arthur and Sir Lloyd Sandiford of Barbados has come from Dr. Nigel Harris, Vice Chancellor of the University of West Indies. He told the Carib News in New York yesterday that such papers would enhance the ability of future generations of students, political scientists and researchers to understand the development of the region's public policies.

"First of all such donations would be a service to the region as a whole," Dr. Harris said. "Secondly, it gives enduring value to the University that this is a place that our leaders see as being vitally important; understand its enduring value; and in that context have a sense of comfort, if you will that what they leave, that part of their life that they are leaving to the University, will be preserved. It will serve to inform future generations of our peoples and our scholars."

Dr. Harris was in New York for the glitzy annual awards gala of the American Foundation for the University of the West Indies. Almost 400 guests attended the Black Tie dinner at the Waldorf Astoria in Manhattan where more than a dozen people were honored for their contribution to the development of the Caribbean or the societies in which they now live and work.

So far Edward Seaga, a former Prime Minister of Jamaica has donated his papers to the UWI's Mona campus; the papers of the late Dr. Eric Williams, the father of Trinidad and Tobago's independence, who helped to create CARICOM, are now housed at the St. Augustine campus in Trinidad; while those of Sir Shridath Ramphal, a former Commonwealth Secretary who later became the University's Chancellor, are at the Cave Hill campus in Barbados.

"We in the Caribbean need a place that scholars, students and others can go to understand, read and learn about public policy," Dr. Harris said. "Such collections shouldn't be stored in a willy-nilly fashion." The Vice Chancellor thinks the papers of Patterson and Arthur would be vital to an understanding of their approach to regionalism and to the policies affecting people in Jamaica, Barbados and the rest of the region.

In Arthur's case, he spent almost 14 years as the head of the government with lead responsibility for the launching of the Caribbean Single Market and Economy and Dr. Harris said his papers were an "extremely valuable" source of information and guidance for future generations.

"Owen Arthur has been one of the thought leaders, if you will, with respect to the implementation of the CSME," Harris said. "It was a charge that he took on. He was engaged in a number of meetings and conferences, some of our university people were there, in terms of thinking through the CSME, the integration of the Caribbean and I think we can learn a lot from that in the short term. We can also learn a lot in the long-term in terms of the journey that we took, so to speak, when it comes to Barbados' development at this point in time and the journey we are going through right now